

The Southwester

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Artist's rendering of the new Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

Formal Opening Of Mandarin Oriental Hotel

By Dr. Beryl Carter Rice

The view from the Manarin Oriental Hotel was the most spectacular view of the coming of spring.

As a guest at the reception for the news media in the Presidential Suite on Sat. Mar. 26, I was able to view the whole panorama of the Tidal Basin, the blossoming cherry trees, and the parade of visitors – young and not so young – strolling under pink and white blossoms. It was a magnificent sight – one which complemented the splendor of this hotel.

Although I am not a designer of interiors, I will share what makes this hotel worth a visit, if not a place to stay. First of all, you are greeted by the most courteous of employees, smartly dressed in their uniforms with gold name tags. Their vests and tunics remind one of the Orient. The carpet is lush and yet subdued. I am told it is designed to resemble a Chinese garden with its rippling ponds, stone walkways and velvety grass.

My tour guide, the handsome sales manager, took me through two of the regular suites which are just as luxurious but

not as spacious as the three presidential suites. All are furnished in modern oriental style. The baths are large with enclosed glass showers and white velour robes and



A guest room at the Mandarin Hotel

slippers and other amenities of a five star hotel.

The two restaurants are spacious and comfortable, one open from morning to night, the other open for dinner. Dining on a terrace is possible.

Walking on a bridge over Maine Ave. to the waterfront is also built into the design of this hotel

Other Southwest residents will no doubt be as impressed as I was.

SW Assembly Meets Apr. 26

The monthly public meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will be Mon. Apr. 26 at 7:30 pm at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd and M St. S. W.

H2O Now Open For Lunch

The Southwest Waterfront is getting back to full operation, after the long period of LeRivage moving away and Hogate's being closed. H2O Restaurant and Lounge started with a 5 to 10 dinner hour, added an 11-3 Sunday Brunch and now is open for lunch during the week from 11 am to 3 pm.

Late night hours on Fridays and Saturdays round the schedule at H2O.

And as noted in a separate story, Jenny's Restaurant has opened for lunch, dinner and carryout.



Modern décor of new Jenny's Restaurant.

Jenny's Now Open On Waterfront

Jenny's Restaurant has finally opened at its new location of 1000 Water St.

SW upstairs from the Capitol Yacht Club and between Phillips Flagship and the fish wharf. In doing so, they have reinvented themselves as Asian Fusion cuisine. The menu includes original favorites like Orange Chicken, soups and stir frys of many kinds as well as new dishes and a dessert menu including chocolate mousse, strawberries in cream and pastries. Prices continue to remain at an affordable level.

Given the Advisory Neighborhood Commission's unanimous approval of Jenny's liquor license transfer at the April 12 meeting, beer, wine and cocktails will be available soon.

Parking includes 15 min. carryout spots at the door and at least 50 parking meters within half a block, ranging from half hour to 2 hours. Underground park-

ing at Phillips and across the street costs only \$5.

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*Old Shakespeare got it
wrong me thinks
In Hamlet's tragic fall
'Tis not conscience,
Friends, but comfort
Doth make cowards of
us all.*

Karma Shave

For information about the Religious Society of Friends, you may call William Penn House 202-543-5560 or for website, www.quaker.org/penn-house.

Southwest Community Calendar April 26 - May 2004

MONTHLY

Wed. Apr. 21 AARP, SW Library meeting room, K St. S.W. & Wesley Pl. 12 noon

Wed. Apr. 21 Math & Music in S.W. local schools - public meeting for parents and community, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I (Eye) St. S.W., 7 pm

Thurs. Apr. 22 NARFE, SW Library, K St & Wesley Pl SW, 12:30 pm

Mon. Apr. 26 Monthly meeting of SWNA, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd & M St. S.W., 7:30 pm-9 pm.

Sat. May 1 Yard Sales at Amidon School, 4th St. S.W. G St. to I St. SW; Capitol Park Condos, G St. & 3rd St. S.W.

Tues. May 4 Police Citizen Advisory Council public meeting, 415 4th St. S.W. 7 pm

Wed. May 5 Labyrinth Walk, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4th & I (Eye) St. S.W. 7:30 pm

Mon. May 10 Advisory Neighborhood Commission monthly meeting open to public view, 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. 7 pm (554-1795)

Sat. May 15 Third Sat. Breakfast \$5 Christ United Methodist Church, 4th & I St. S.W. (entrance across from library) 9 am to 11 am.

Sat. May 15, Sun. May 16 SW Voices of Now, SW Voices of Then performances in Old Vat Room of Arena Stage, Maine Ave. side, free 8 pm

Mon. May 24 Monthly public meeting of SWNA, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3rd & M St. S.W. 7:30 pm

WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY

Komen Toastmasters - First & Third Sat., S.W. Library, 10 am.

Fil-Am Toastmasters - Second & Fourth Wed., S.W. Library, 6:15 pm

School St. Toastmasters - Every Tues., 400 Virginia Ave. S.W., Room 88 - noon

Collector's Club Stamps - First & Third Wed., Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block of I (Eye) St. S.W., 7 pm (202-291-62290)

S.W. Kiwanis - First & Third Mon., Christ United Methodist, 4th & I St. S.W., 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

S.W. Citizens Patrol with Officer Kenny Daniels - 4th & M St. S.W., Safeway parking lot, every Tues. At 7 pm

New Southwest Toastmasters - Every Wed. GSA Bldg - 7th & D St. S.W., Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon.

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wed. May 5

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Capitol Park Yard Sale May 1

On Sat. May 1 Capitol Park Condos II and IV will hold their annual yard sale "across from the Circle at Third and G St. S.W." from 11 am to 3 pm. Rain date is Sun. May 2.

Amidon Yard Sale May 1

The annual yard sale to benefit Amidon Elementary School will be held along 4th St. from I (Eye) St. to G St. S.W. from 9 am to 2 pm Sat. May 1.

The Southwester

P.O. Box 70131, Washington D C 20024

Southwester Staff

202/554-8560

Email text to:

thesouthwester@yahoo.com

Dale MacIver & Carole Early, *Joint Editors*
Susan Fischer, *Advertising*
Saadai Athias, *SEU Representative*
Maurice Boyd & Mark Clark, *writers*
Electronic Ink, *Publication Production*
Herbert Holmes, Resial Shannon,
Production Assistants
Alvin Hudgens, *Sports Writer*

Mail your stories by **Wed. May 5** to The Southwester, P.O. Box 70131, Washington, D.C. 20024.

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1/4 page	\$140	1/2 page	\$275
Full page	\$550		

Classified Ads—\$1 per word
Ad deadline Wed. May 5

Seniors, Youth Perform In May

In the Old Vat Room downstairs at Arena Stage two groups of Southwest residents will perform stories of their lives in the neighborhood on May 15 and 16.

Young people have been meeting weekly at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, writing their stories and learning to perform them under the guidance of professional actors from Arena Stage. These are the "Voices of Now."

On Friday afternoons senior citizens have been telling their stories and learning to put them in writing in weekly sessions at the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly office in Waterfront Mall, under the guidance of Laura Zam, Director of Southwest Community Programs at Arena Stage.

These are the "Voices of Then."

The public is invited to watch their stories played out on stage. Admission is free. Make a reservation by phone 488-3300 or at the main ticket window on 6th St. & Maine Ave. S.W. and pick up at Will Call there at any time, or on the night of the performance at Will Call downstairs at the Old Vat, entrance near Maine Ave. S.W.



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Briefly...in Southwest DC

Crime Drops In Southwest

Crime in Southwest, D.C., continues to decline, according to recent police statistics.

Stolen Autos and Theft From Autos (each with 7 cases in March 2004) are among the most preventable crimes that are plaguing the neighborhood.

Total crime was reduced 12% compared to March a year ago, a trend that was evident for the past 12 months.

Names and offences of persons arrested each month appear on the web site: www.dccommunityprosecution.gov of the United States Attorney's Office of Community Prosecution. The February, 2004, report includes quite a number arrested on K and L St. S.W. for drug offenses. Police are concentrating now on a "hot spot" area of several blocks near 1st. St. S.W. and N St. S.W.

First Police District Community Outreach Specialist for the U.S. Attorney's office is Theresa Jackson, 202-727-5413. Community Prosecutor is Kathy Worthington. Both have offices at One D Headquarters, 415 4th St. S.W.

Enforcement Of Out-Of-State License Plates

D.C. residents who register their cars out-of-state can expect a \$100 ticket.

Cars with out-of-state plates parked overnight on public space are entered into a portable computer. After 15 days a warning citation is issued and placed on the vehicle. Fifteen days later, if the vehicle is parked overnight again, a ticket is issued.

D.C. Code requires out-of-state vehicles remaining in the District for more than 30 days to be registered or to apply for a reciprocity sticker. The driver must be licensed in D.C. too.

The same D.C. law then requires the D.C. registered vehicle to display a District inspection sticker and be properly insured.

Questions about the D.C. enforcement program can be directed to the Parking Services Administration through 727-1000, where you leave a name and phone number for a call back from a District official.



Ms. Theresa Jackson is the 1D Community Outreach Specialist for the U. S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.



New SWNA Board Members

Thelma Jones, right, is shown swearing in the newly elected officers and representatives on the Board of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA). New President Marge Maceda is in the center.



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A Poem For Women's Month

By Margaret Oliver

A Woman's Place

We were told
You can only touch the lower star,
It is un-lady-like to reach too far,
Because a female is all you are.

We kept looking up:
And saw all the stars in the sky,
So we began to question why?
We had to reach low while our brothers
reached high.

We had proved we had working brains,
Were smart and eager to train,
And had demonstrated to doubters cha-
grin,
Our intelligence over and over again.

Then it started:
Women dared touch the forbidden star,
By flying a plane or passing the bar,
Or sailing a ship or tuning a car.
Any jobs were theirs for the taking,
Teaching, preaching, or cake making.
No star was improper for them to touch,
No task chosen was thought too much.

It has come to this:
The results you see left and right,
Distinguished women who have fought
the fight,
So no younger woman will have to face,
The restrictions that go with a woman's
place!

Arena Stage Musical Is A Smash Hit

By Dale MacIver

Arena Stage is performing a world premier of a Frank Loesser (*Guys and Dolls*) new musical comedy that promises to be a smash hit. *Senor Discretion Himself*, which started previews April 9, is full of "Broadway" songs. It dances to a Latin beat.

The widow of Frank Loesser supplied 300 pages of music and lyrics for an unfinished Loesser musical to Charles Randolph-Wright, who is directing the production. Ric Salinas, Herbert Siguenza and Richard Montoya of *Culture Clash* helped with the final writing.

Based on the first preview (official opening was not until April 15, when the Southwester had already gone to press), the audiences will be tapping their feet, applauding with enthusiasm and hurrying out to tell their friends about the great fun at Arena Stage, scheduled to run in the Fichandler through May 23, 2004.



Two Summer BB Leagues For SW Youth

By Alvin Hudgens

A new tournament for Southwest basketball athletes ages 15 and under is being formed for this summer. Play will be Mon. and Wed evenings at King-Greenleaf outdoor court at Canal and N St. S.W.

The regular age 18 and under league is being organized, to play Tues. and Thurs. evenings.

Teams and coaches contact me, Mr. Hudgens, at the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club #4 at 202-727-4618.

Anti-Racial Profiling In Hwy Bill

Stong provisions against racial profiling in vehicle stops by police are in the \$275 billion transportation bill now in conference after recent passage by the U. S. House.

D. C. Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, (D,DC) said that the anti-racial profiling provisions she sponsored allows states to apply for federal funds to keep records and train law enforcement officers not to make stops on the basis of race.

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The bill includes hundreds of millions of dollars for transit and highway projects in D.C., she said, including \$20 million for rehabilitating the South Capitol St. Bridge, clean natural gas buses for Metrobus and much needed bicycle trails.

DC's \$877 million in transit funds in the bill is an increase of \$384 million above the last bill passed by Congress.



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Painted Pandas Prepared

D.C. streets will soon have 100 painted Pandas, like the elephants and donkeys of a year or two ago. When Chicago displayed painted cows a few years ago, they seem to have started a craze.

Painting is being done in empty offices in the Waterfront Mall at 4th and M St. S.W.

The project is sponsored by the D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities.



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Attention Sellers: Springtime is Here!!!

The market is still Hot, Hot in our neighborhood, and the inventory of apartments and townhouses is very low. I am working with frustrated buyers looking for SW properties. If you are thinking of Selling**Now is the time. Please call me at 202-554-5317 for a private interview, to discuss your special property.

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Riverside: Eff. 1 Br., 1 Ba. range form \$115,000-\$200,000

Apartments also for sale in Harbor Square, River Park, Town Sq. Towers, Tiber Island.
Prices range from \$95,000-\$350,000.

A few townhouses featured: 2Br., 2Ba. \$325,000, 3 Br. 1-1/2 Ba. \$245,000,
3 Br. 2-1/2 \$350,000 and 3 Br., 1 Ba \$389,000

(Please note, available properties for sale, are subject to change on a daily basis)

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Visiting The Navy Museum On Weekends

Taking advantage of the new weekend hours (10am – 5 pm) for visitors to the Navy Museum at the Washington Navy Yard (entrance 6th and M St. S.E.) are “Fonzo” Johnson, posing after touring the Display Ship Barry DD933, and Marty Watson in the Captain’s Chair on the bridge of the Destroyer Barry. Pictured also is a World War II Navy fighter plane on display in the museum.

Visitors without Defense Dept. ID should phone 202-433-6897 by noon on Friday to make reservations to enter the Navy Yard. A photo ID is required.

The website for the Navy Museum is www.history.navy.mil.



Contributions By New Immigrants

by Maurice Boyd

In our March '04 issue The Southwester had a photograph and story on an award given to Jefferson Jr. High teacher Jonathon Jou. His history is typical of thousands of immigrants to the United States who are making important contributions to our country.

Like so many others Mr. Jou was born and grew up in a famous land on the other side of the world, and his native language is totally different from ours. However, he learned English and speaks it better than many of us who were born here. He is employed in teaching English to foreign-born students at Jefferson Jr. High in Near Southwest.

Mr. Jou's father and mother, who now live with him in Alexandria, were victimized because of who they were by the totalitarian regime in their country – a country we are trying to be friends with,

but it has never been easy since 1946.

Even before 1946 his country was thrown into great disarray through a brutal invasion and occupation by another nearby country. However, relations have much improved in the past 10 years or so.

Mr. Jou, like so many others, learned English well enough to lead English speaking tours, and through that was “rescued” and sent to probably the most unusual college in America—St. John's College in Annapolis, for a graduate degree in the humanities. He is now working on another Masters—in Communications—at American University.

Mr. Jou has chosen, as did his parents before him, to be a teacher, which is needed in any society. He is enthusiastic and quite successful. As he is still young, his future is an open road.

If you see Mr. Jou, be sure to say hello and thank you.

ON THE WATERFRONT

Thank you, Southwesters. I knew that the budding Cherry Blossoms would once again bring the sweet scent of scandal to our fair community.

The First District police recently emerged from hibernation in time to intercept a Cadillac load of drugs and guns headed for the open air pharmacy at Howison and N St. S.W.. Two assault rifles, seven handguns and a couple pounds of marijuana and a couple of unlucky entrepreneurs were taken off the streets by under cover and uniformed officers in a matter of minutes. No telling what they'd find if they'd stick around all day.

Millennium Developments:

Going, going, gone... Our informers at the Millennium Art Center tell us that there is a regime change in progress and Corcoran Gallery director David Levy has taken control of the building on I Street Southwest. There were rumors of a buy-out from the previous lease holder, who shall remain nameless, and murmurs that some, but not all, of the previous tenants will be relocated to other areas in the sprawling complex. The creaking 150-year-old Corcoran, which apparently has plans to use the space for art classes and art storage, remains mum on developments. There was no mention of at last creating a home for the long lost Washington Project for the Arts, whose acronym only pops up when the

Corcoran slash WPA comes around begging artwork from local artists for their annual charity auction.

Moving Up Town

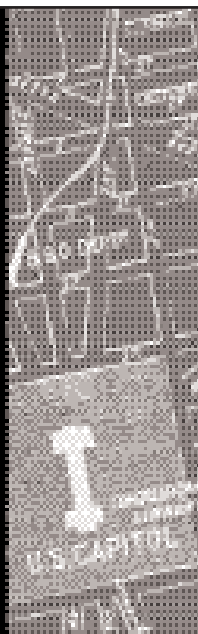
The Neighborhood Archive Project, an evil scheme to produce photographic portraits of the inhabitants of Old Southwest, is opening its exhibition of gigantic digital prints uptown at Ruppert's Warehouse, at 1017 Seventh Street, Northwest, across from the Washington Convention Center. Many of the ten-times-life-size pictures of people from the 'hood were made by Michael Platt, one of DC's finest artists. The show runs, night and day until May 15.

Don't Drink the Water

Now that ANC Commissioner Mary Williams has defected from the DC government, has she turned into a thorn in Mayor Williams side? She was last seen leading a very loud and colorful demonstration for Unleaded Water in front of the Wilson Building on Pennsylvania Avenue. In support of Ms. Williams' cause, we were preparing to switch to a strict diet of beer, wine and liquor. Our plans were thwarted by the Alcoholic Beverage Control board, which shuttered Cap Liquor Store for alleged sales to minors.

(Columnist's Note) In response to repeated inquiries about the identity of On the Waterfront: It's hard enough to get people to spill the beans as it is.

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Hidden Resources

(Second in a series)
by Saadia Athias

Our walk continues at 4th and E St. S.W. Heading east on E St. S.W. is the large NASA Headquarters Bldg. It has two restaurants – the Grand Café and a small grill, as well as a cleaners, a gift shop, a variety store and a post office (11 am – 2 pm).

At the east end of E St. is the familiar restaurant Market Inn.

Around the corner from NASA near the Federal Center SW Metro on Third and D St. SW facing the Ford House Office Bldg. are Kelly's Food Works, Café Fifty Nine, Day Care at the Washington Office Center, the Design Center and Gold's Gym.

Over on 6th St. SW on School St.

S.W. across from the fire station are Cosmos Cleaners, Subway Sandwich Shop, and a great deli called The Atrium Café, which has great coffee and pile-high carved turkey and roast beef sandwiches. They serve breakfast and lunch.

At the 6th St. & D St. entrance to the Department of Transportation is a huge cafeteria that is open to the public. The friendly guards meet you at the top of the stairway leading down to the eatery, to see photo ID. The cafeteria has a grill and buffet.

In the courtyard at lunchtime in the spring and summer months (at the top of the escalator for L'Enfant Plaza Metro) open air markets sell fresh fruits and vegetables, with occasional free concerts in the courtyard.

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Awards Night At Club #4

The annual awards night at Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club #4 saw \$1,600 worth of trophies distributed as 191 individual awards in baseball, football and basketball, 42 sportsmanship, MVP (Most Valuable Player) and Most Improved awards.

Food was prepared and served by parents and coaches.



Tamil Perry, left, coach for Club 4's Super PeeWee co-ed basketball team watches as her sportsmanship award recipient poses with her trophy. Ms. Perry was once a young Club #4 basketball player herself, as well as a recipient of a SWNA College Scholarship.



Participation by Southwest youth in sports sponsored by Club #4 is so extensive that awards to be given to each young athlete stretch across many yards of tables on awards night.



Club #4's Junior Midget (105 lb.) football team, some of whom are shown here with their awards, made it to the citywide playoffs. Coaches Ronald Hines and James Parson are at the left.



A few of the parents, coaches and children who served supper at awards night are caught by the camera.

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